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October 13, 2009

Julius Genachowski, Chairman Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

I am writing to express my concern about the FCC's upcoming announcement on network neutrality. Heavily regulating wireless networks will reduce investment in communities throughout West Tennessee and cut into job growth—two issues that affect my legislative district in West Tennessee deeply. For example, the small town of Henderson, Tennessee has a 3g wireless network connecting our citizens and the students of Freed-Hardeman University to the world. This private investment in next generation technology is a direct result of a unique collaboration between the Freed-Hardeman University, Apple, and AT&T to help students develop the next generation of skills needed to thrive in the global marketplace. In addition, the investment in wireless technology throughout my district is a direct result of the competition between service providers for customers, and not a result of government mandates or subsidies.

The deployment of advanced wireless technology in West Tennessee is a success story. Nearly all residents and businesses have access to advanced wireless phones and networks, empowering new innovation and better value. Free market forces and investment are the reason for the investment in our community. Consequently, it is importative that the FCC retain the spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship that has built the robust wireless and online networks we have today.

The FCC can take another step by avoiding network neutrality regulation of wireless broadband deployment. Henderson, Tennessee is a model community for the type of investment required to bring broadband and the associated well-paying local jobs and technology to all areas of the nation.

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I think we all agree that a fair and open Internet is important, but your proposed regulations on traditional and wireless broadband service will shut off further investment in my community, costing us jobs and investment. Our thriving community needs the opportunity to continue growing without unnecessary new regulations.

I thank you for your attention.

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Sincerely,

Dolores Gresham

Tennessee State Senator for Senate District 26